

Message Text

MRN: 1974DAMASC000066 SEGMENT NUMBER: 000001 ERROR READING TEXT INDEX
FILE; TELEGRAM TEXT FOR THIS SEGMENT IS UNAVAILABLE
ADP000
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13
ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 SAB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 OMB-01

DRC-01 /144 W
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R 151755Z FEB 74
FM USINT DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0069
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
USINT ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
USINT CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANAA
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USMISSION GENEVA
UUSUN NEW YORK 005
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 DAMASCUS 0066

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL
BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD
KUWAIT PASS MUSCAT

E. SYRIA-USSR: THE USSR HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO WIN THE HEARTS OF
THE SYRIANS OR EVEN THEIR MINDS. NEITHER HAVE THEY BEEN SUCCESSFUL
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IN IRAQ. THE SOVIETS ARE ARROGANT AND DEMANDING AND THEY GIVE NOTHING FOR NOTHING. THE SYRIANS DO NOT WISH THE SOVIETS TO HAVE A DOMINANT ROLE IN THE AREA AND LOOK TO THE UNITED STATES TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE TO ACHIEVE AN ARAB-ISRAELI SETTLEMENT IN ORDER TO PUT AN END TO OPPORTUNITIES WHICH PERMIT SOVIET MISCHIEF-MAKING IN THE ARAB WORLD.

F. ARAB FRIENDS OF THE US: TUNISIA, SAUDI ARABIA AND THE ARAB GULF STATES WANT THE UNITED STATES UNDER PRESIDENT NIXON AND SECRETARY KISSINGER TO SUCCEED IN THEIR CURRENT PEACE-MAKING EFFORT BECAUSE SUCH A SUCCESS WILL ENABLE AMERICA'S ARAB FRIENDS TO WORK OPENLY AND ENERGETICALLY ON BEHALF OF ARAB-AMERICAN UNDERSTANDING. WITHOUT IT, AMERICA'S FRIENDS ARE IN A HOPELESS SITUATION. THUS, AN AMERICAN ACHIEVED ARAB-ISRAELI SETTLEMENT IS IN THE INTEREST OF BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND OF HER ARAB FRIENDS. THE LATTER HAVE NO WHERE ELSE TO TURN EXCEPT TOWARDS THE UNITED STATES WHICH UNFORTUNATELY IN THE RECENT PAST HAS BEEN PURSUING AN UNBALANCED POLICY BASED ON AN OVER IDENTIFICATION OF US INTERESTS WITH THOSE OF ISRAEL.

2. COMMENT: AMBASSADOR ABDALLAH IS A WELL INFORMED CAREER DIPLOMAT WHO HAS THE HAPPY TALENT OF BEING ABLE TO SEE THE SALIENT FEATURES OF A SITUATION AND OF SUBSEQUENTLY BEING ABLE TO ARTICULATE THEM IN A CLEAR AND COGENT MANNER. WHILE I AM NOT YET SURE HE HAS DIRECT ACCESS TO THE INNERMOST CIRCLES OF THE SYRIAN ESTABLISHMENT, I BELIEVE HE HAS GOOD GENERAL ACCESS AND IS IN A POSITION TO PROVIDE ME WITH VALUABLE CURRENT INFORMATION ON ATMOSPHERICS IN DAMASCUS. IN ANY EVENT I BELIEVE HIS VIEWS ARE A GOOD REFLECTION OF WHAT MANY SYRIANS BELIEVE, IF NOT ASAD HIMSELF, AND I INTEND TO CULTIVATE MY RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM IN THE FUTURE IN ORDER TO PERMIT ME SOME FURTHER ACCESS TO SYRIAN CIRCLES OTHERWISE CLOSED TO ME. IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF AMEMBASSY TUNIS WOULD BE ABLE TO OBTAIN ANY FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING WASSILA BOURGHIBA'S VISIT TO DAMASCUS.

SCOTES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, CABINET, PFOR, CONFIDENTIAL, NEGOTIATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, MILITARY OCCUPIED AREAS, PEACE TALKS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: rowelle0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974DAMASC00066
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: CORE1
Film Number: n/a
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740230/aaaabbuv.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: ADS TEXT UNRETRIEVABLE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: ECTION OF THE VIEWS OF MANY SYRIANS, AND OF ASAD HIMSELF.
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: rowelle0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 24 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 APR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <30-Sep-2002 by rowelle0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONVERSATION WITH SALAH EDDIN ABDALLAH, AMBASSADOR OF TUNISIA: US/SYRIAN RELATIONS: ASAD'S POSITION AND POLICY
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SY, XR, XF, US, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (KHADDAM)
To: SECSTATE WASHDC ABU DHABI ALGIERS AMMAN BEIRUT CAIRO JIDDA KUWAIT
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005